

Springfield at St Paul's Frequently Asked Questions

Version 1.0 (5th August 2021)

1. Why are we moving our location for Sunday services?

While there are plenty of good practical reasons why using St Paul's Roundshaw for our Sunday services is a good idea, ultimately PCC felt that this is where God is leading us for this season. It is a step of faith and we would really value your prayer during this transition stage.

2. Will we go back to Wallington Girls'?

At the moment, PCC has committed to Sunday services at St Paul's from September through until December 2021. During this time we will continue to review the situation and seek to listen and answer questions.

3. What's going to happen with children's groups?

We're delighted to say that children's groups (MiniChurch for 0-5s, Roadrunners for 5-11s and Youth for 11-18s) will continue to run. MiniChurch will be onsite at St Paul's, and Roadrunners and Youth will be at the Phoenix Centre next door.

4. What about parking at St Paul's?

The Phoenix Centre car park which is next door to St Paul's is currently being used as a COVID testing centre. While we would encourage people to walk where possible and to be considerate in parking in the local streets around St Paul's, we're looking into securing one of the local schools as a parking area on a Sunday morning.

5. Is St. Paul's big enough?

Yes! While St Paul's is smaller than Wallington Girls', with the dividing doors open we can seat around 150 (without social distancing restrictions). The only occasions where this would be insufficient based on attendance figures over the past 3 years

is for big baptism services and our Christmas special invitational service. We do have the possibility of hiring Wallington Girls' for one-off events.

6. What will we do with all the equipment stored at WHSG?

Over the summer we're going to be working on that very question. To run services at St Paul's we only need a fraction of what's stored at WHSG so we will be looking carefully at what we've got and what we need to keep hold of moving forward.

7. What are the financial implications?

Hiring St Paul's and rooms at the Phoenix Centre is considerably cheaper than hiring Wallington Girls'.

8. Does meeting in a church building make us less missional?

Historically, Springfield has always met in non-church buildings - namely schools. The primary reason for this has been to meet in a 'neutral' space where people that wouldn't ordinarily come to church could feel able to attend. In the 29 years since Springfield was planted, attitudes to church have changed drastically and churches meeting in schools has become much more common. PCC actually felt that this move would enable us to actually be *more* missional, being a beacon of hope in the centre of a particular part of our community on a Sunday morning! Additionally, Sunday mornings only make up a small part of what we do as a church, and we hope that as the world emerges from the pandemic, that missional groups and activities will restart and new ones form all over our community.

9. How does this affect the pioneering work led by David and the Roundshaw Circlers?

David and his team have been seeing some incredible areas of breakthrough this year as they've been listening to God and to the Roundshaw community. Springfield meeting at St Paul's serves to support this pioneering work, not replace it. David and his team will continue to build relationships and seek to grow a worshipping

community within Roundshaw that engages particularly with those who are unchurched and dechurched.

10. What's happening on the 19th September 'Relaunch'?

Our first morning service at St Paul's will be on the 5th September and then we've got Praise in the Park (in Beddington Park) on the 12th September. To give us a bit of time to prepare everything we need to, our big 'relaunch' service will be on the 19th September - which will be a celebration of all things Springfield and will announce our presence at St Paul's to our local community. It is PCC's hope that we'll get lots of visitors and the return of those who have perhaps become disconnected during the pandemic.

11. Will Springfield continue with online services?

Yes! Quite what this will look like will depend on whether we can record or livestream the St Paul's services easily and well, but we've seen the clear benefits of an online presence over the past 18 months. While we don't have the resources to produce a separate full live online service, we are committed to serving our online community.

This FAQ list will be updated as more questions come up and if you have a question that hasn't been answered above, please let a member of the PCC know.